

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-4. (canceled)

5. (added) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell, comprising an electrolyte membrane, and an air pole and a fuel pole provided to sandwich said electrolyte membrane therebetween, each of said electrolyte membrane, said air pole and said fuel pole including a polymer ion-exchange component, wherein said polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of aromatic hydrocarbon polymer, said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly has an ion-exchange capacity I_c in a range of $0.9 \text{ meq/g} \leq I_c \leq 5 \text{ meq/g}$, and a dynamic viscoelastic modulus D_v at 85°C in a range of $5 \times 10^8 \text{ Pa} \leq D_v \leq 1 \times 10^{10} \text{ Pa}$, and wherein if the weight of catalyst particles included in each of said air pole and said fuel pole is represented by W , and the weight of said polymer ion-exchange component included in each of said air pole and said fuel pole is represented by X , the ratio X/W of the weights W and X is in a range of $0.05 \leq X/W \leq 0.80$.

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6. (added) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 5, wherein said electrolyte membrane includes a first polymer ion-exchange component, and each of said air pole and said fuel pole includes a second polymer ion-exchange component and said catalyst particles, wherein said second polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of aromatic hydrocarbon polymer free of fluorine which is soluble when said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly is immersed into a solvent for recovering said catalyst particles, and said first polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of

aromatic hydrocarbon polymer free of fluorine which is soluble when an undissolved material removed from said solvent is immersed into a solvent for recovering said first polymer ion-exchange component.

7. (added) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 6, wherein the solubilities of said first and second polymer ion-exchange components in said solvent into which said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly is immersed are such that the solubility of said second polymer ion-exchange component is larger than that of said first polymer ion-exchange component.

8. (added) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 5, 6 or 7, wherein said aromatic hydrocarbon polymer is any of polyether-ether ketone, polyether sulfone, polysulfone, polyetherimide, polyphenylene sulfide and polyphenylene oxide.